

LIBRARY

Wimborne Minster Urban District



Medical Officer's REPORT

1945

Tilsed, Printer, Wimborne.

**To the Chairman and Members of the Urban
District Council of Wimborne Minster.**

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit to you my
Annual Report for the year 1945.

L. BODLEY SCOTT,

Acting M.O.H.

1. Public Health Staff.

Medical Officer (part time). Dr. L. Bodley Scott (vice Dr. Eric H. Markby on active service).

*Sanitary Inspector (part time), combined with Office of Surveyor—*Mr. H. Fenton, relinquished appointment August, 1945; Mr. A. H. E. Gallender, A.R.S.I., appointed August, 1945.

2. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

	1945.
Area (in acres) ...	653
Registrar General's estimate of Population as at 30th June ...	3959
Number of Inhabited Houses (from rate book)	1327
Rateable Value ...	£31,447
Sum represented by one penny rate ..	£126 8s.

Social conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area, and the extent of unemployment: The chief industries are Engineering and Building Trades. The unemployment in the Urban Area was negligible.

The evacuees had nearly all left the town, but there were about fifty still here.

The town still had military personnel billeted.

No houses were built.

Vital Statistics.

	1945	
	M.	F.
Live Births (legitimate) ...	30	35
Live Births (illegitimate) ...	8	4
Still Births ...	1	1
Birthrate per 1,000 population ...	19·4	
Still birthrate per 1,000 births ...	·5	
Deaths ...	28	41
Crude death rate ...	17·4	
Death from Puerperal causes	—	
Infants under 1 year of age ...	1	1
Death rate per 1,000 live births ...	12·9	
Legitimate Infant Death rate ...	12·9	
Illegitimate Infant Death rate ...	—	
Deaths from Cancer ...	4	9
Measles ...	—	
Whooping Cough ...	—	
Diarrhoea (under 2 years) ...	—	

2a. Birth rates, Death rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Death rates and Case rates for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1945.

England and Wales. London, 126 Great Towns and 148 Smaller Towns
(Provisional Figures based on Weekly and Quarterly Returns)

	England and Wales	126 C. Bs. and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns Resident Pop 25,000 50,000 at 1931 census	London Adm. County
Births—				
* Rates per 1,000 Civil Population				
Live Births	16.1†	19.1	19.2	15.7
Still Births	0.46†	0.58	0.53	0.40
Deaths—				
All Causes	11.4†	13.5	12.1	13.8
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02
Diphtheria	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
Influenza	0.08	0.07	0.07	0.07
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Measles	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.01
* Rates per 1,000 Live Births				
Deaths under 1 year of age	46	54	43	53
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs. of age	5.6	7.8	4.5	7.5
Notifications—				
Typhoid Fever	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
Paratyphoid Fever	0.01	0.00	0.01	0.00
Cerebro Spinal Fever	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06
Scarlet Fever	1.89	2.02	2.03	1.57
Whooping Cough	1.64	1.65	1.47	1.25
Diphtheria	0.46	0.52	0.56	0.31
Erysipelas	0.25	0.28	0.24	0.31
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	—	0.00
Measles	11.67	10.89	11.19	9.03
Pneumonia	0.87	1.03	0.72	0.78
(a) Notifications— Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still)				
Puerperal Fever	9.93	12.65	8.81	3.60
Puerperal Pyrexia				15.87†
(b) Maternal Mortality— England and Wales—				
No. 140 Abortion with Sepsis 0.25	No. 141 Abortion without Sepsis 0.08	No. 147 Puerperal Infections 0.24	Nos. 142 148-150 Other 1.22	
Abortion— Mortality per million women aged 15-45—England and Wales				
No. 140 with Sepsis 18		No. 141 without Sepsis 6		
† Including Puerperal fever				

* A dash (—) signifies that there were no deaths

† Per 1,000 related births

‡ Rates per 1,000 total population

3. General Provision of Health Services for Area.

(a) *Laboratory facilities.* The Dorset County Laboratories, at Glyde Path, Dorchester, with branch Laboratory at the Municipal Buildings, Poole, afford a comprehensive and up-to-date service.

(b) *Ambulance facilities.* For general purposes and accidents the Council maintain a 23 h.p. Bedford Ambulance, with capacity of 2 lying and 4 sitting cases, or 3 lying cases.

For Infectious Diseases, ambulance conveyance is provided by the Borough of Poole, the contracting authority for the hospitalisation of infectious illness, where called for.

Disinfection of premises, bedding, etc., is also carried out by contract with the Borough of Poole.

(c) *Clinics and Treatment Centres* (under the authority of the Dorset County Council) :—

Child Welfare Clinic held on alternate Tuesday afternoons at the Women's Institute, Leigh Road.

Orthopaedic Clinic held monthly on Wednesdays at the Women's Institute, Leigh Road.

Ear, Nose and Throat. School children found to require operative treatment for unhealthy tonsils or adenoids receive this at the Wimborne Cottage Hospital.

Defective Eyesight amongst children is examined periodically, and if necessary, spectacles are provided.

School Dental Service. Schools are visited periodically by the travelling Dental Clinic of the County Education Authority.

Tuberculosis. The County Tuberculosis Clinic is open on Mondays and Thursdays at King Street, Poole, with a centre for radiography artificial pneumo-thorax, and other aspects of control and treatment at the County Home, Nirvana, Commercial Road, Parkstone.

Venereal Diseases. Dorset County Clinic is held at Cornelia Hospital, Poole, on Tuesdays and Fridays, and at Boscombe Hospital, Shelley Road, Boscombe, on Wednesdays and Saturdays, with separate hours for men and women.

Hospitals: General and Maternity. Wimborne has its own "Cottage" Hospital with accommodation for 34 patients, but no Maternity Ward.

Cornelia Hospital, Poole, and the Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital Boscombe, both afford full general and maternity facilities, and Allen House, a County Welfare Institution, has 49 beds. Maternity—There are no beds in this area.

Infectious Diseases. The district has a contract with the Borough of Poole for the treatment of suitable cases at the Borough Isolation Hospital, Alderney, Newtown, Poole.

Smallpox incidence is provided for by the County Council at the Isolation Hospital of the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District.

4. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

- (1) *Water.* No extensions of public water supplies were made during the year. The town is supplied by the Bournemouth Gas and Water Company. The supply has been satisfactory in quality and quantity. There are a few wells. Samples are taken regularly and infected wells condemned.
- (ii) *Drainage and Sewerage.* No new works were carried out during the year. The provision of a joint sewerage scheme for the District and part of the Wimborne and Wimborne Rural District was decided upon just before the war. Discussions are at present taking place on certain aspects of the scheme but it is not anticipated that the work will be commenced for sometime.
- (2) *Rivers and Streams.* No action taken pending decision as to the provision of a sewerage scheme.
- (3)
 - (i) *Closet Accommodation.* There are still about 1093 pail closets and about 338 water closets.
 - (ii) *Public Cleansing.* A weekly collection of house refuse is in operation.
 - (iii) *Sanitary Inspection of the Area* carried out regularly.
 - (iv) *Dairies, cowsheds, meat and other food shops* are being inspected regularly by the M.O.H. Quantities of meat banned and other foodstuffs condemned : Home killed 304lbs, Canned meats, 350lbs. Other foodstuffs 522lbs, miscellaneous tinned food 190 tins.
 - (v) *Company Sites.* There are none in the area.
 - (vi) *Smoke abatement.* No nuisance in the town.
 - (vii) *Swimming Pools and Baths.* There are none in the district, but there is a small Paddling Pool for children, which is cleaned out regularly.

The Water supply of the Schools in the Urban District is satisfactory, being from the mains of the Bournemouth Gas and Water Co. With regard to sanitation, the schools are in the same position as the rest of the Urban District, *i.e.*, there is no Main Drainage. The schools are visited by the M.O.H. as soon as a case of Infectious Disease is notified, and the necessary steps are taken to endeavour to prevent spread of infection.

5. Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis).

			1945	
			M	F
Measles	...	...	1	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	1	—
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	—	—
Erysipelas	...	...	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	—	—
Meningitis	...	...	—	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	—	1
			3	6

6. Protection against Diphtheria.

The total numbers protected to the end of 1945 have been as follows :—

Year	1 to 4 years	5 to 15 years	Notifications	Deaths
Up to 1940	33	3	7	—
1941	36	43	3	—
1942	143	244	1	—
1943	79	71	—	—
1944	14	7	—	—
1945	10	34	—	—

Prior to 1943 the numbers were all inclusive. For 1943 and 1944, the figures refer to actual residents in the Urban District. The earlier figures, for instance, included Grammar School children, the majority of whom live outside the District. They also included temporary evacuee residents whose numbers gradually fell away during 1943 and 1944 to a negligible total.

A close investigation of the records to exclude those now over 15 years and based on the Registrar General's estimate of an age group (1 to 4 years) population of 311, and a 5 to 14 years group of 599, give a protected rate of well over 90 per cent. for the permanent population.

7. Tuberculosis. New Cases and Mortality.

Age	1945				Deaths			
	New Cases						Non	
	Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
1 and under 5	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5 and under 15	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
15 and under 25	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....
25 and under 35	2	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....
35 and under 45	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
45 and under 55	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
55 and under 65	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
65 and over	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	3	.....	2	.....	1	2	.....	.....

8. Causes of Death.

Code No.	Cause	1945	
		M	F
6	Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	1	2
13	Cancer of Uterus	.....	1
14	Cancer of Stomach and duodenum	1	.....
15	Cancer of Breast	.....	1
16	Cancer of all other sites	3	6
17	Diabetes	.....	1
18	Intracranial vascular lesions	5	7
19	Heart Disease	10	7
20	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	.....	4
21	Bronchitis	1	1
22	Pneumonia	1	1
23	Other Respiratory Diseases	1	.....
27	Other Digestive Disorders	.....	1
28	Nephritis	.....	2
31	Premature Birth	1	1
33	Suicide	1	.....
35	Other violent causes	1	1
36	All other causes	2	5
		28	41